



USDA EGG MARKET NEWS REPORT

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NATIONAL EGG MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Prices were unchanged on all sizes in New York. Elsewhere, weekly prices were higher on all weights. The market tone ranged steady to firm beginning the week. Demand was moderate to very good, best where features were in progress or planned. Supplies were sufficient to tight and remained confidently held. Breaking stock offerings were tight to adequate for the light to fairly good demand. Light type hens were generally sufficient for the moderate demand.

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED WAREHOUSE, CENTS PER DOZEN.

MIDWEST REGIONAL Midwest warehouse delivered prices were higher for all sizes. Other reported prices were unchanged. Trade sentiment was fully steady to firm. Retail demand was moderate to fairly good. Food service movement was usually moderate. Supplies were in balance to adequate with the larger sizes the least available. Central states breaking stock prices were unchanged. Demand was light to fairly good with offerings tight to barely adequate and held with confidence. Supplies were in close balance to adequate. Schedules full-time. Trade sentiment steady to fully steady.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	51-60	55-57
LARGE	51-59	53-56
MEDIUM	34-40	37-39

IA-MN-WI - Prices paid to producers.			
	RANGE	MOSTLY	
LARGE	34-41	36	
MEDIUM	17-21	19	
SMALL	5-7		

MIDWEST AREA: IA,IL,IN,KY,MI,MN,OH, NE,ND,SD,WI,WV,Western NY, and Western PA

NORTHEAST REGIONAL Prices were higher on all sizes when compared to previous week's values. The market tone was fully steady entering the week. Demand into all outlets was moderate to fairly good. Supplies were adequate to tight for immediate trade needs. Breaking stock offerings were balanced to adequate for the light to moderate demand. Schedules were noted as normal to less than normal. Offerings of spent fowl were generally sufficient for the moderate demand. Processing schedules were reported as irregular.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	60-74	60-63
LARGE	54-68	59-63
MEDIUM	34-47	39-41

NORTHEAST AREA: CT, DC, DE, MA, MD, ME, NH, eastern NJ, eastern NY, PA, RI, northern VA, and VT

SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL Prices were higher for all sizes. Trade sentiment fully steady to firm. Retail demand was fairly good to good. Food service movement was moderate to at times fairly good. Supplies were remained usually tight and held with confidence. Central states breaking stock prices were unchanged. Demand was light to fairly good with offerings tight to barely adequate and held with confidence. Supplies were in close balance to adequate. Schedules full-time. Trade sentiment steady to fully steady.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	61.5-70	63-66
LARGE	56.5-65	58-61
MEDIUM	37.5-46	39-42

SOUTH CENTRAL AREA: AR,AZ,CO,KS,LA,MO,NM,OK, and TX

SOUTHEAST REGIONAL Prices were higher on all sizes when compared to previous week's values. The market tone was fully steady to firm beginning the week. Demand into all channels was moderate to very good. Supplies were adequate to balanced. Breaking stock supplies were balanced to sufficient for the light to moderate demand. Light type fowl were generally adequate for the moderate demand.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	54-65	59-62
LARGE	52-63	57-60
MEDIUM	32-44	37-41

SOUTHEAST AREA: AL, FL, GA, MS, NC, SC, eastern TN, and southern VA

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED STORE DOOR, CENTS PER DOZEN.

NEW YORK Prices entered the week unchanged on all sizes. Trade sentiment was steady to fully steady. Retail demand was moderate to good, best where features were a factor. supplies were sufficient for present trade requirements.

	RANGE
EXTRA LARGE	68-72
LARGE	66-70
MEDIUM	46-50

CHICAGO & MIDWEST Prices were higher for all sizes. Trade sentiment was fully steady. Retail and food service demand moderate to fairly good. Supplies were adequate to in balance with the larger sizes in the tightest position.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	57-65	59-61
LARGE	56-64	57-60
MEDIUM	41-48	42-44

see page 3 for prices on certified organic eggs in cartons

WESTERN Prices 7 cents higher on jumbo, 7-8 cents higher on extra large, 7 cents higher on large, and 7-8 cents higher on medium. The Pacific region inventory was 2% higher with California up 5% and Oregon-Washington-Utah down 2%. Retailer demand moderate. Offerings mainly adequate.

CALIFORNIA Prices 7 cents higher on jumbo, 8 cents higher on extra large, 7 cents higher on large, and 8 cents higher on medium and small. The California inventory was 5% higher than last week. Retailer demand moderate. Offerings adequate. Small benchmark price 56. Ads and prices to consumers in Northern California were not available.

California Egg Marketing Association and other marketers benchmark price for negotiated egg sales of USDA Grade AA and Grade AA in cartons, cents per dozen. This price does not reflect discounts or other contract terms.

	RANGE
JUMBO	107
EXTRA LARGE	101
LARGE	92
MEDIUM	76

PRICES TO CONSUMERS MAJOR CHAINS, METROPOLITAN AREA, USDA GRADE AA AND GRADE AA, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA		NORTHERN CALIFORNIA	
	RANGE		RANGE
JUMBO	249-347	JUMBO	
EXTRA LARGE	219-309	EXTRA LARGE	NOT AVAILABLE
LARGE	199-239	LARGE	
MEDIUM	99-205	MEDIUM	

NATIONAL RETAIL EGG PURCHASES REPORT Cooperators estimate orders for the week ending September 24, 2004 will increase by 15 percent. Present week purchases for the week ending September 17, 2004 were 233,958 cases which was 5 percent above the prior week and 4 percent below estimates.

	CARTONED	LOOSE	TOTAL
Cases purchased present week.....	194,566	39,392	233,958

% change from the prior week.....	+5	+3	+5

Comparison figures are compiled on a matched plant basis. Purchases and estimates by 14 cooperators; 30 dozen cases or equivalent.

CENTRAL STATES BREAKING STOCK Prices were unchanged. Demand was light to fairly good with offerings tight to barely adequate and held with confidence. Supplies were in close balance to adequate. Schedules full-time. Trade sentiment steady to fully steady.

PRICES PAID TO 11:00 AM, MATERIAL EXCHANGED, 30 DOZEN CASE EQUIVALENT, 48 LB. MINIMUM NET WEIGHT, DELIVERED TO BREAKERS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
BREAKING STOCK	32-34	
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	20-26	20-22

CENTRAL STATES AREA:
AR,CO,IA,IL,IN,KS,LA,MI,MN,MO,NM,ND,NE,OH,OK,SD,TX,WI

SOUTH CENTRAL HEAVY LIVE HEN Trading levels were generally unchanged from the past week. Demand was moderate for adequate supplies of heavy hens. Finished sales were fair. Schedules were normal. Trade sentiment was about steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP)*
FINAL PRICE, GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 20-SEP-04

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	6.5-13 CENTS/LB.	9.75-10.5	9.92

*WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

SOUTHEAST LIVE HEAVY HEN Majority prices were slightly higher when compared to a week earlier. Demand was mostly moderate for generally adequate to at least adequate offerings. Processing schedules were noted as normal to at least normal. Sales of finished product were clearing satisfactorily. The undertone was steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP)*
FINAL PRICE, GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 20-SEP-04

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	8.25-15 CENTS/LB.	10.25-12	11.88
AT FARM PRODUCER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT		
FOB PLANT	TOO FEW TO REPORT		

* WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

WEEKLY SHELL EGG INVENTORY REPORT-SEPTEMBER 20, 2004

STOCKS ON HAND AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING 1/
(30 DOZEN CASES-IN THOUSANDS)

		Northeast	No Cent	So Cent	So Atl	Pacific	5-Area
Jumbo	Curr Wk	10.0	16.5	5.9	10.6	10.0	53.0
	Change	.7	-3	.6	-1.1	-1.0	-2%
Ex Lge	Curr Wk	24.6	36.5	12.9	20.0	34.4	128.4
	Change	1.7	-3.7	-.5	-19.9	3.1	-13%
Large	Curr Wk	37.4	109.8	66.9	78.7	90.2	383.0
	Change	2.1	13.4	3.4	-14.9	8.8	3%
Medium	Curr Wk	14.0	63.5	18.0	27.6	37.3	160.4
	Change	2.4	-2.3	2.0	4.7	-.8	4%
Small	Curr Wk	5.1	11.5	7.2	5.5	8.8	38.1
	Change	-.5	-1.3	1.0	1.8	-2.3	-3%
Misc	Curr Wk	6.5	38.4	10.1	19.4	6.1	80.5
	Change	.5	-3.7	-.7	-.1	.2	-5%
Ungraded	Curr Wk	15.2	30.7	21.0	36.7	21.5	125.1
	Change	-5.8	-9.1	1.4	-8.1	-3.1	-17%
Total	Curr Wk	112.8	306.9	142.0	198.5	208.3	968.5
	% Change	1%	-2%	5%	-16%	2%	-3%

Total Shell Egg Inventory	Number of Cases	Percent Change	Number of Cooperators
Shell Egg	968.5	-3%	171
Shell Egg Breaking Stock	257.5	-8%	35
Total Shell Egg	1226.0	-4%	206

1/ Information supplied by a universe of 171 cooperators who normally have stocks on hand each Monday A.M. and is on the basis of matched plants reporting in both the current and previous weeks. Sample does not represent total U.S. inventory but includes eggs packed for export when in cooperator's coolers.

No valid comparison can be made with year ago or previous months' figures due to changes in number of plants surveyed, holidays falling in different weeks or changes in size of plant operations.

Northeast- CT, DE, MA, MD, ME, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VT
North Central - IA, IL, IN, MI, MN, ND, NE, OH, SD, WI
South Central - AR, CO, KS, LA, MO, NM, OK, TX
South Atlantic - AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, TN, VA, WV
Pacific- AZ, CA, ID, MT, NV, OR, UT, WA, WY

CANADIAN EGGS QUEBEC/MONTREAL: WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE TO RETAILERS (CANADIAN DOLLARS) GRADED IN CARTONS, AS REPORTED BY AGRICULTURE AND AGRI-FOOD CANADA, AISD, AID, POULTRY SECTION FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 06, 2004

GRADE A	XLARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
	2.00	1.97	1.88	1.16

MINIMUM PRODUCER PRICES FOB FARM FOR THE WEEK COMMENCING SEPTEMBER 06, 2004 AS ESTABLISHED BY ONTARIO EGG PRODUCERS MARKETING BOARD.

GRADE A	XLARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
	1.57	1.57	1.47	.77

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES — DAILY WTD AVE PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR SEPTEMBER 17, 2004

CURRENT LOADS								FUTURE LOADS								TOTAL LOADS															
9.00								4.25								13.25															
SE				NE				MW				LOADS				SC				NW				SW				LOADS			
CLASS	ORG	DST		ORG	DST			ORG	DST			CLASS	ORG	DST			ORG	DST			ORG	DST			ORG	DST					
GNR W 1	—	—		46.00	48.00			—	—		2.00	GL W XL	—	—			—	—			—	—			—	—		63.33	4.00		
GL W XL	—	—		—	—		52.50	54.50	5.75			GL W LG	—	55.00			—	—			—	—			—	—		—	2.00		
GL W LG	—	—		—	—		47.00	—	2.75			GL W MD	—	—			—	—			—	—			—	—		38.00	1.00		
GL W MD	—	—		—	—		—	—	1.75																						
GL W SM	—	—		—	—		22.00	25.00	1.00																						

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES — WEEKLY (5-DAY) WTD AVE PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR 09/13/04-09/17/04

CURRENT LOADS 67.50								FUTURE LOADS 65.00								TOTAL LOADS 132.50							
		SE		NE		MW					SC		NW		MW								
CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	LOADS	CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	LOADS						
GNR W 1	37.50	40.50	41.38	43.45	—	37.67	22.00	GNR W 1	—	42.00	—	—	—	52.00	—	—	9.00						
GNR W 2	—	—	—	—	—	41.00	6.00	GNR W 2	—	41.00	—	—	—	47.50	—	—	5.00						
GNR BR 1	—	—	—	—	—	40.00	1.00	GL W J	—	—	—	71.00	—	—	—	—	1.00						
GL W J	—	—	62.00	64.00	—	54.00	4.00	GL W XL	—	—	—	59.80	—	—	63.33	—	6.75						
GL W XL	—	58.00	52.36	54.29	51.32	52.35	39.25	GL W LG	52.00	52.13	—	56.33	—	—	57.00	—	23.00						
GL W LG	—	48.58	43.07	43.40	45.00	49.00	28.75	GL W MD	33.00	38.00	—	—	35.83	38.67	—	—	10.75						
GL W MD	—	—	26.00	27.50	30.33	30.25	13.50																
GL W SM	—	—	25.25	27.50	22.00	25.00	3.00																
GL BR LG	50.00	53.50	—	—	—	—	1.00																
NRBS - 48	—	—	—	32.00	35.00	33.67	18.25																
NRBS - 45	—	—	—	30.00	—	—	.50																
NRBS - 42	—	—	—	—	—	26.00	8.00																
NRBS - 39	—	18.50	—	—	15.50	—	2.00																
NRBS - 36	—	—	—	—	16.00	18.00	1.00																

WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICES ARE LISTED FOR VARIOUS CLASSES PRICED BY ORIGIN AND/OR DESTINATION FOR 6 REGIONS. THE LOADS COLUMN REFLECTS TOTAL LOADS REPORTED AND INCLUDES LOADS WITH PRICES TO BE DETERMINED LATER. NRBS CATEGORIES REPRESENT NET WEIGHT - MATERIAL MAY OR MAY NOT BE INCLUDED.

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT-FROZEN EGGS (In Thousands)

ON HAND	09/13/04	09/07/04	09/15/03
PACIFIC COAST	176	215	136
LOS ANGELES	136	173	76

CERTIFIED ORGANIC EGGS IN CARTONS

(price per carton delivered to first receivers)

Brown Eggs	CENTS/CARTON	MOSTLY
Extra Large doz.	222 – 260	239 - 240
1/2 doz.	120 – 151	130 - 134
Large doz.	217 – 250	227 - 230
1/2 doz.	115 – 142	128 - 133

NORTH CAROLINA EGGS The market is sharply higher on all sizes. Supplies are adequate. Retail demand is fair to fairly good.

PRICES WEIGHTED AVERAGE, IN SMALL LOTS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, NEARBY RETAIL OUTLET, CENTS PER DOZEN.

MOSTLY

EXTRA LARGE	76.51
LARGE	73.63
MEDIUM	54.63
SMALL	43.00

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